

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 147
By Leatherwood

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mr. Robert M. Conley
for being named to the National Teachers' Wall
of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay
tribute to those public servants who have given unreservedly of themselves to perpetuate the
public good; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert M. Conley is one such remarkable person, a voice of integrity in
the field of corrections who recently was named to the National Teachers' Wall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Conley is only the second Tennessean to receive this prestigious honor;
and

WHEREAS, a resident of Henning, Mr. Conley received a Bachelor of Science degree in
Secondary Education and a Master's Degree in Administration Supervision from the University
of Tennessee at Martin; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Conley's distinguished teaching career began in Weakley County, and
shortly thereafter he was selected as principal at a county high school, where he was widely
respected and admired by teachers and students alike; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, he accepted a position at the Lake County Regional Correctional
Facility, rising steadily through the ranks to the position of associate warden of operations; and

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WHEREAS, as security administrator at the Facility, Mr. Conley was responsible for the security staff of nearly one hundred and fifty employees, and directed the assignment, training, supervision and evaluation of security, education and treatment staff; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Robert Conley was named warden at the West Tennessee High Security Facility, Tennessee's largest maximum security prison; and

WHEREAS, as chief administrator at the Facility, he heads a staff of two hundred and forty-seven employees and eight senior management staff members and plans, administers, coordinates and reviews the security, treatment and administrative programs at the prison; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Conley has used the knowledge accrued through years of teaching and school administration, as well as his strong enthusiasm for the education of our many at-risk students, to encourage new and better ways of teaching in our correctional schools, both at WTHSF and throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, high on Mr. Conley's list of priorities is the development of the prison's educational institutions, of which he is especially proud; and

WHEREAS, Robert Conley is active in his profession, as evidenced by his membership on the state committee responsible for the development of the departmental guide for unit management, the state committee for overall evaluation of institutional bed management, the departmental training advisory board, and his astute chairmanship of the systemwide evaluation of the Facility's educational system; and

WHEREAS, despite the many demands placed upon him, Robert Conley still finds time to contribute his time and remarkable talents as chairman of the Weakley County Heart Fund, president of the Martin Little League, scoutmaster and Red Cross volunteer, commander of American Legion Post #172, and as a member of the Lake County chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, his many honors and accolades aside, Mr. Conley is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his wife, Connie, and their three children; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded as a first rate administrator, Robert Conley is the perfect example of a person totally committed to effective correctional programs and the highest ideals of public service, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Mr. Robert M. Conley for being selected to the National Teachers' Wall of Fame and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.